

[Captions on envelope: MISSENT TO BOSTON MASS, HELD FOR POSTAGE;
NEW ORLEANS LA, JUN 4 1863; NEW ORLEANS LA, JUN 30 1863]

[Addressed to Mrs. Nathan Brand Leonardsville, Madison, Co N.Y.]

Brashear City, La

May 28th 1863

Dear Father & Mother,

I rec'd your welcome letter of the 10th of April about a week ago, and this is the first chance I have had to answer it, in fact we have had no chance to write any in most two months except one day when Harrison wrote you and sent our likenesses. I got one partly written when we had orders to go back up the Bayou Teche which we done accordingly and have just returned yesterday, foot sore and completely tired out having marched between five and six hundred miles since we crossed the Bay the 9th of last month. I think that is enough marching for once in this country especially it is very warm here now, Harrison & I have stood it as well as any of them, we are both well now except being tired. You of course have heard of the fight we were in and all of the particulars so you know as much about as I do, we never have seen any account of it. I wish you send me the Tribune that has got it in. I can tell you we had a hot time for a day and half but we was to march for them and of course they had to skedaddle, we have not seen any fighting since except a little skirmish with some Guerillas which attacked our rear guard after we passed through Franklin 30 miles above here as we were coming down, they killed the Lieut. of the rear guard and a cavalry man and wounded four, they took a major ~~and~~ three Lieut.'s and one capt. and a number of men that were straggling ~~beh~~ behind, our company was deployed as skirmishers, we tried to coax them up ~~to~~ near enough so we ~~could~~ could try our skill on them, but could not. We were agoing to camp there for the night but we heard there was a heavy force coming down superior to ours, and we a valuable *waggon* train with us which we wanted to get to this place which we did by marching all night after marching all day ~~and~~ that day and the next untill now. I can tell you we were tired if ever any lot of men ~~ever~~ were. I got to sleep a dozen times marching along in the ranks. They are bound to keep our regt. on a move the untill the war is closed or till our time is out for we only came back yesterday and we have orders to go to New Orleans either to night or in the morning, we ~~probably~~ will go on the cars. The war news in this department ~~of~~ the has been very good for the past month, the Rebels have been driven from every ~~pint~~ point where they have made a stand except Port Hudson &

Vicksburg and our men are hard at work at both places, we have heard the war of the mortars in front of Port Hudson every day for the past two weeks, the whole army in this department are in motion. We got two months pay the first of this month the day we left here, we would have got four months pay if the pay rolls had been ~~paid~~ made out, we only got ten dollars in money and the checks we will get next pay day for the two months that we got the money for. Harrison says he will ~~writ~~ write tomorrow, he has been busy since we came back. The boys from L— are all well except Elijah but he is so he is around again and Homer is in New Orleans at the Marine Hospital, he has not been with us in over two months, the best thing he can do is to go home. tell Lute I will write to her the first chance I get. I want write two more letters to night if I have time, I don't know as I can for I have some work to do to get ready for another march.

Give my love to all and write soon.

Yours Affectionately,

Frantz